

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding a PLD from a *Neisseria* bacterium.

8. (Original) The polynucleotide of claim 7, wherein the polynucleotide comprises nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32.

9. (Original) An isolated and purified polypeptide encoded by nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32.

10. (Original) An isolated and purified polypeptide comprising phospholipase D from a *Neisseria* bacterium.

11. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 10, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18 or SEQ ID NO:20.

12. (Currently amended) A vaccine comprising an immunogenic amount of the polypeptide of claim 10 a PLD polypeptide from Neisseria, which amount is effective to immunize a patient against a neisserial infection, in combination with a physiologically-acceptable, non-toxic vehicle.

13. (Currently amended) The vaccine of claim 12-19, which further comprises an effective amount of an immunological adjuvant.

14. (Currently amended) The vaccine of claim 12-19, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.

15. (Currently amended) The vaccine of claim 12 19, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.
16. (Currently amended) The vaccine of claim 12 19, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32.
17. (Currently amended) A method of protecting a patient against *Neisseria* colonization or infection comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a vaccine comprising an immunogenic amount of the polypeptide of claim 10 a PLD polypeptide from Neisseria, which amount is effective to immunize a susceptible patient against a neisserial infection, in combination with a physiologically-acceptable, non-toxic vehicle.
18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 15, which further comprises an effective amount of an immunological adjuvant.
19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 15, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.
20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 15, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.
21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 15, wherein the vaccine is administered orally, mucosally or by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection.
22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 15, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:19 or SEQ ID NO:32.

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23-24. (Canceled)

25. (New) The polypeptide of claim 10 that is conjugated or linked to a second peptide.
26. (New) The polypeptide of claim 10 that is conjugated or linked to a polysaccharide.
27. (New) An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 10.
28. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 10 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable vehicle.